

Department of Justice

United States Attorney David L. Huber Western District of Kentucky

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LOUISVILLE COKE DEALER SENTENCED TO FIVE YEARS AND 8 MONTHS ON COCAINE CHARGES

- \$1.64 Million worth of cocaine seized - \$320,376 cash also seized

LOUISVILLE, KY - Marco Antonio Chavez, age 37, of Louisville, Kentucky, in Jefferson County, was sentenced to 5 years and 8 months imprisonment in United States District Court, Louisville, Kentucky, for possession with intent to distribute cocaine, U.S. Attorney David L. Huber of the Western District of Kentucky announced today. Chavez is currently a lawfully-admitted, permanent resident, but not a citizen. However, he will be subject to removal from the United States as an aggravated felon.

Thomas B. Russell, Judge, United States District Court, also sentenced Chavez to 5 years supervised release following incarceration. There is no parole in the federal judicial system.

Chavez pled guilty and admitted that on November 30, 2005, agents from the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) executed a search warrant at Chavez's place of business, Champion Exhaust Auto Care located at 1147 Clay Avenue, in Louisville, Kentucky. During the execution of this search warrant, agents recovered 16.40 kilograms of cocaine, worth approximately \$1,640,000 on the street, along with \$320,376.00 in U.S. Currency. A drug sniffing dog was used during the search. The dog alerted to a Chevrolet Tahoe, and located in the back seat of this vehicle some of the above cash was recovered. The dog alerted to a Ford Explorer, and located in it was five kilograms of cocaine and the rest of the money. The dog

alerted to box which was in a small room at the back of the business, and the rest of the cocaine was recovered. **Chavez** admitted that he possessed the cocaine with the intent to distribute it.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Laura L. Hall, and was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration, along with the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

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